

EXTRA-TIME PENALTY SAVES BEDFORD

UPROAR AS STURROCK FOILS WYCOMBE

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Bedford Town 3 Wycombe Wanderers 3

AMID disorderly scenes, Southern League Bedford Town, so often the ruin of the F A Cup hopes of senior clubs, were saved from defeat against Wycombe Wanderers, the Isthmian League side, by a disputed penalty in extra time.

This first round tie was 207 minutes old when Rundle, the Wycombe centre-half, attempted to breast a harmless ball in the penalty area.

Referee M. Sinclair ruled that he had handled, and after angry scenes in which it seemed the referee might be attacked by invading spectators, Sturrock scored the equaliser.

Several minutes elapsed before the ritual of the last three minutes could be played out, and at the end the referee had to be protected by officials.

Wycombe's secretary, Mr. Tom Hayter, said afterwards: "This was a cruel decision, and Rundle is in tears. It is so unfortunate because the referee controlled the match perfectly otherwise."

AMATEURS AHEAD

Worley scores

The amateurs seemed to have the match won when, in the seventh minute of extra time, Merrick drew out Collier and scored Wycombe's 92nd goal in all competitions this season.

Bedford failed utterly to crush the amateurs when they had the chance. The only goal of the first half came when Wycombe's goalkeeper Maskell rashly left his line as Sturrock centred. The ball curled out of his outstretched fingers into the goal.

Wycombe equalised eight minutes after the interval when Bates shot a free kick right-footed at the defensive wall and struck home the rebound left-footed from 30 yards.

In the 80th minute Wycombe took the lead when Beck centred. Collier made a similar mistake to Maskell's, and Horsman headed into an empty goal. Within a minute Bedford forced a corner and Skinn was up to head the equaliser.

Won the toss

Wycombe won the toss for the choice of venue for the second replay, which will take place on their ground on Saturday (3 p.m.). The winners visit Oxford United in the second round.